

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Criminal Investigation Division  
Investigative Activity Report**

**Case Number:**

0700-0563

**Case Title:**

Cass County PWSD 9

**Subject of Report:**

Interview of (b) (6),

**Reporting Office:**

Kansas City Area Office

**Activity Date:**

January 4, 2018

**Reporting Official and Date:**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Special Agent

16-JAN-2018, Signed by: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Approving Official and Date:**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Assistant Special Agent in Charge

23-JAN-2018, Approved by: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Assistant Special Agent in Charge

**SYNOPSIS**

On January 4, 2018, EPA-CID Special Agent (hereinafter "SA") (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and SA (b) (6), (b) (7) met and interviewed (b) (6), (b) (7) (hereinafter "(b) (6), (b) (7)"), board member of the Public Water Supply District #9 (hereinafter "PWSD #9"). (b) (6), (b) (7) said the board ultimately decided to suspend the PWSD #9 manager, (b) (6), (b) (7) (hereinafter "(b) (6), (b) (7)") for the entire month of January 2018, without pay, for allegations involving (b) (6), (b) (7) not conducting required water sampling correctly, as well as unauthorized, PWSD #9 funded, iPad service fee payments.

**DETAILS**

On January 4, 2018, EPA-CID Special Agent (hereinafter "SA") (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and SA (b) (6), (b) (7) met and interviewed (b) (6), (b) (7) (hereinafter "(b) (6), (b) (7)"), board member of the Public Water Supply District #9 (hereinafter "PWSD #9"), at his residence located at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), Harrisonville, Missouri. The interview audio was digitally recorded in two parts, which are attached to this report titled, "(b) (6), (b) (7) Interview Part 1.WMA," and "(b) (6), (b) (7) Interview Part 2.WMA," respectively. After introductions were made, official credentials presented, and the nature of the visit explained, (b) (6), (b) (7) provided the following information:

(b) (6), (b) (7) said he is a (b) (6), (b) (7) Corporation. (b) (6), (b) (7) said he is also a member of the water board for PWSD #9. (b) (6), (b) (7) said the board meets once a month to go over PWSD #9's business, ranging from issues to reviewing water usage to billing. (b) (6), (b) (7) said issues discussed would include water line breaks, contractors, billings, issues with customers, complaints, and reviewing boil orders. (b) (6), (b) (7) said the board usually meets an hour to two hours, the last Friday of every month. (b) (6), (b) (7) said the only month they have missed in the four years he has been a member was in October 2017. (b) (6), (b) (7) said they cancelled the October 2017 meeting because (b) (6), (b) (7) LNU, (b) (6), (b) (7) LNU last name was not provided by (b) (6), (b) (7), but (b) (6), (b) (7) later identified (b) (6), (b) (7) as the water system manager, known by the reporting Agent to be (b) (6), (b) (7) (hereinafter "(b) (6), (b) (7)") and employee of PWSD #9), and (b) (6), (b) (7) (hereinafter "(b) (6), (b) (7)"), the president of the board, were all harvesting, and with that many members absent they would not have met the three-member quorum. (b) (6), (b) (7) said no member of the board makes all twelve months, due to other jobs or personal matters. (b) (6), (b) (7) said he probably missed two or three meetings a year.

(b) (6), (b) (7) said (b) (6), (b) (7) runs the PWSD #9, and (b) (6), (b) (7) (b) (6), (b) (7) is her maiden name, married name (b) (6), (b) (7) is his assistant. (b) (6), (b) (7) said (b) (6), (b) (7) LNU and (b) (6), (b) (7) (last name later identified as (b) (6), (b) (7)) are also employees of the district, but (b) (6), (b) (7) was let go in November 2017, "because of a lot of issues."

With regards to reporting requirements to regulatory agencies, (b) (6), (b) (7) said (b) (6), (b) (7) keeps the board up to date on items such as different tests conducted throughout the year. (b) (6), (b) (7) said he did not know all the details, but stated the employees tell the board what they did during that month, such as audits.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the EPA.  
It is the property of the EPA and is loaned to your agency;  
it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Criminal Investigation Division  
Investigative Activity Report**

**Case Number:**

0700-0563

(b) said reports to the board, and and every district employee goes to the meetings. (b) said attendance has been this way for the last two years. (b) said (b) (6), takes the meeting minutes and notes, and LNU will fill in for her if she is absent. (b) said any questions that come up regarding fixing lines, expansions, or details in the field, LNU or would primarily answer, but (b) would also occasionally answer. (6)

With regards to the May 2017 board meeting, (b) said an issue was brought up by (b) (6), (b) said someone from the staff had contacted (b) (6), with concerns about (b) (6). (b) said he did not know all the details, but said the board meeting (b) (7) was held and then the board members asked the staff to leave. (b) said (b) (6), then told the board of the concerns that were brought to him (b) (6), (b) stated again (b) (6) that the board meetings are usually one or two hours, but said the board met for almost half the day. (b) said the board decided to bring in each individual on the staff and ask what was going on. (b) clarified they brought in (b) (6), LNU, (b) (6), and (b) (6), (b) (7). (6)

(b) said the staff felt didn't treat them right, and (b) said the staff did not have hard proof, but felt that was not taking the water samples correctly. (b) said the staff alleged there was no way was able to get around to all the sample locations, and still make it to the office by 8:00 or 8:30 AM. (b) said someone on the staff had apparently talked to a resident at one of the sample points and the resident said she had never seen there. (6)

(b) said there was also an allegation that and his wife were using an iPad for personal use, that was being paid for by the PWSD #9. (b) said the payment was never authorized by the board. (6)

(b) said another allegation was that was using PWSD #9 funds to purchase gasoline for personal use. (b) said there was also little proof in this allegation, but said there were claims made that would put district gas cans in his truck on a Friday, and they would come back empty. (6)

(b) said the board brought in and "flat questioned" him. (b) said never admitted to anything regarding the water samples. (b) said the board showed the bill regarding the iPad also. (b) said said "ok," but never admitted to doing anything. (b) said said he would take care of it during the November 2017 board meeting. With regards to the gasoline allegations, (b) said the board did not push hard on, because the felt the allegation was difficult to prove. (b) said the board ultimately decided to suspend for the entire month of January 2018, without pay. (b) said this (b) (6), suspension equated to a loss of about \$7,000 in Kohler's salary. (6)

With regards to PWSD #9 credit cards, (b) was unsure who was issued them. (b) said if he was managing the district, (b) (6), LNU, and maybe (b) (6) would all have one. (b) said this would be because LNU, and (b) would rotate on call, "24/7," and may need to fix something outside of normal business hours. (b) said he never looked at the district's monthly expenditures, except when (b) (6), showed him the bills on (b) (6), iPad. (6)

(b) said he was not aware of regulatory reporting requirements until after the issues with were brought up. (b) said (b) (6), share that information with the board. (b) said the board never had a discussion as to if they should report the allegations against (b) (6). (b) said the board probably did not ever think about reporting the allegations. (b) said the board decided that would no longer take the water samples, and directed LNU and (b) (6), conduct the sampling. (b) (7) (6)

With regards to the termination of (b) (6), employment at PWSD #9, (b) said he was let go in November 2017. (b) said the reasoning behind this was more than just (b) (6) bringing forth concerns about (b) (6). (6)

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the EPA.  
It is the property of the EPA and is loaned to your agency;  
it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Criminal Investigation Division  
Investigative Activity Report**

**Case Number:**

0700-0563

(b) said it became apparent during the interviews that (b) had a “strong vendetta” against (b) (b) for the past year (b) had a bad and short attitude toward customers and board members. (b) said the board asked if (b) was good for PWSD #9, and the response was “questionable.” (b) summed up (b) being terminated based on overall job performance and the fact that (b) did not handle himself the best. (b)

(b) said the board never tried to compare water sample times versus (b) (b), arrival times at office. (b) said he did not think the PWSD #9 office had any security systems, cameras, or timecards. (b) said (b) and (b) (b), have computers. (b)

(b) said the sample locations included (b) (b), (b) residence, a former board member’s residence west of Harrisonville, (b) (b), residence, and (b) (b), (b) (7)(C) house. (b) said he believes the board has changed the sample locations, but said he missed that meeting. (b) said he believes there are four new sample locations. (b)

(b) said that (b) was an earlier riser, often being on his way to work at 6:00 or 6:30 AM. (b) said it is possible (b) could have been conducting the sampling correctly. (b) said the original sample locations were decided prior to (b) being on the board, but those locations all have outside spigots. (b) said (b) (b), stated this during a board meeting. (b)

(b) said that the PWSD #9 has not had any samples fail the analyses performed, at least there has never been a report of it. (b) said on occasion samples out of water tower may be “high in a few things,” but the board has the problem fixed. (b)

(b) stated that from what he has seen, the PWSD #9 has a “clean bill of health, and has never had anything questionable...at least that’s what has been presented to us. We take pride in our good water.” (b)

**ATTACHMENT**

(b) (b), (b) Interview Part 1.WMA

(b) (b), (b) Interview Part 2.WMA